

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

**GENERAL ORDER**

The full Court met in executive session on Tuesday, November 21, 2000 and approved proposed Local Rule 83.5 regarding Confidentiality of Alternative Dispute Resolution Proceedings. The proposed rule is designed to ensure confidentiality in all Alternative Dispute Resolution proceedings and to encourage the parties to mediate in employment and excessive force cases. The proposed rule is required pursuant to, and tracks the language in, the ADR Act 28 U.S.C. § 652 (d). The proposed Local Rule 83.5 was published for comment pursuant to the General Order of May 11, 2000. Two comments were received.

The Court's Rules Committee discussed all comments and suggestions at its meeting of Thursday, November 9, 2000. It recommended that the full Court adopt proposed Local Rule 83.5.

The full Court considered the recommendation of the Rules Committee at its meeting on Tuesday, November 21, 2000 and agreed to adopt Local Rule 83.5. Therefore,

By direction of the full Court met in executive session on Tuesday, November 21, 2000, 2000,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Local Rule 83.5 regarding Confidentiality of Alternative Dispute Resolution Proceedings be adopted as follows (additions shown **thus**, deletions shown ~~thus~~):

### **LR83.5 – Confidentiality of Alternative Dispute Resolution Proceedings**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 652(d), all non-binding alternative dispute resolution (“ADR”) proceedings referred or approved by any judicial officer of this court in a case pending before such judicial officer, including any act or statement made by any party, attorney or other participant, shall, in all respects, be privileged and not reported, recorded, placed in evidence, made known to the trial court or jury (without consent of all parties), or construed for any purpose as an admission in the case referred or in any case or proceeding. No participant in the ADR proceedings shall be bound by anything done or said at the ADR conference unless a settlement is reached, in which event the settlement shall be reduced to writing or otherwise memorialized and shall be binding upon all parties to the settlement.

ENTER:

FOR THE COURT

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Chief Judge

Dated at Chicago, Illinois this 30th day of November, 2000.